

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of

Satoshi INABA

Continuation of Appln. No. 09/235,310

Group Art Unit: 2822

Filed: **Herewith**

Examiner: **Michael M. Trinh**

Title: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME**

* * * * *

October 17, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, just under the title, insert:

-- **CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a Divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/235,310, filed February 3, 1999, which is based upon and claims benefit of priority of Japanese Patent Application No. 10-011164, filed on January 23, 1998, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. --

REMARKS

Claims 15-20 are pending. Claim 15 is the sole independent claim. The specification is amended to identify continuation data.

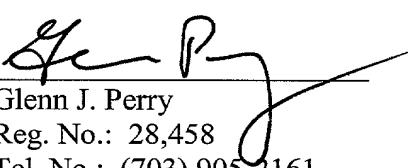
Applicants believe that the claims are in condition for allowance and request that the application be processed to issue. If any questions remain, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned.

Meanwhile, please note the attached form PTO-1449 and listed documents and return a copy of that form initialed per MPEP 609.

Respectfully submitted,

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